

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2012-312-C - ORDER NO. 2012-660

AUGUST 31, 2012

|   |   |                 |
|---|---|-----------------|
| IN RE: Petition of Frontier Communications of the | ) | ORDER REVERSING |
| Carolinas, Incorporated Requesting the            | ) | NUMBERING       |
| Commission's Intervention in Numbering            | ) | DETERMINATION   |
| Resources Determinations in the Myrtle            | ) |                 |
| Beach Rate Center                                 | ) |                 |

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the Petition of Frontier Communications of the Carolinas, Inc. ("Frontier" or the "Company") for review of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator's and/or the Pooling Administrator's (collectively "NANPA/PA" also known as "Central Office Code Administration") central office code numbering resources decision to deny the Company's request for numbering resources in the Myrtle Beach Rate Center. Specifically, the Company asserts that NANPA denied its request for the assignment of 1,000 NXX DID's in that rate center on August 1, 2012.

Frontier states a new thousand number block, in which Frontier will be the "Code Holder", is needed to satisfy a Location Routing Number (LRN) request for a new Genband G6 voice gateway installation in the Myrtle Beach Rate Center. According to the Company, the new trunk gateway will allow next-generation Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services to be offered in South Carolina. The new LRN assignment will be used to support Local Number Portability in LATA 432 to allow a customer's existing

telephone numbers to be ported to the new VoIP soft switch platform. Frontier asks that the Commission reverse NANPA/PA's denial.

NANPA/PA's refusal stems from the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") "rate center" basis for determining the need for new numbering resources. Under FCC rules, carriers must exhaust their numbering inventory within six months of the application and meet a rate center utilization threshold of 75 percent in order to receive additional numbering resources. However, the record reveals that the Myrtle Beach Rate Center was more than six months from exhausting its inventory and was using 35.972 percent of its numbering resources.

Although Frontier fails to meet NANPA/PA's requirements, the FCC maintains a policy that "under no circumstances should customers be precluded from receiving telecommunications services of their choice from providers of their choice for want of numbering resources." FCC 000-429 at ¶ 61. To this end, the FCC allows carriers to challenge a NANPA/PA decision at the appropriate state regulatory commission. FCC 01-362 at ¶¶ 61-66; Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines § 13.0. States may grant relief "if a carrier demonstrates that it has received a request for numbering resources in a given rate center that it cannot meet with its current inventory." FCC 01-362 at ¶ 64.

We find that the South Carolina Public Service Commission, as the regulator of the rates and service of telecommunications companies under the authority of S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-210 et seq., has the authority under both the FCC's rules and the Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines to review a decision by NANPA/PA denying

a request for numbering resources. It is our opinion that the additional numbering resources are necessary for Frontier to provide its customers with the required telecommunications service. Consequently, we hold that NANPA/PA is directed to approve Frontier's request.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
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David A. Wright, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
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Randy Mitchell, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)